

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 7-18.

1(original). A method for minimizing call setup delay for a call in a communication network, wherein the communication network includes a central node connected to a number portability database, the method comprising:

triggering a first query to the central node for information for routing the call when a request for setting up the call is received by a switching unit;

triggering a second query from the central node to a home location register for the routing information in order to set up the call; and

triggering a third query from the central node to the number portability database for the routing information if the second query fails to provide the routing information.

2(original). The method of claim 1 further comprising selecting the home location register from a first table accessible to the central node, wherein the home location register is selected based on a mobile station ISDN and a state of a flag.

3(original). The method of claim 1 further comprising searching a second table for a location routing number before triggering the second query, wherein the second query is only triggered if the location routing number is not found in the second table.

4(original). The method of claim 1 wherein the home location register has a number portability mapping database for mapping ported numbers, wherein each mobile phone known to the home location register is identifiable by its mobile station ISDN number, and wherein triggering the second query includes searching number portability mapping database for a mobile station ISDN number associated with the call.

5(original). The method of claim 1 wherein the call is made from one wireless communication network to another.

6(original). The method of claim 5 wherein the two wireless communication networks use different technologies.

7-18 (canceled).

19(original). A telecommunications system adapted for minimizing call setup delay for a call associated with a first mobile station identifier, the system comprising:
a plurality of home location registers (HLRs);
a central node in communication with the HLRs;
a first table accessible to the central node, wherein the first table contains a plurality of mobile station identifiers and associated location routing numbers;
a second table accessible to the central node, wherein the second table contains a plurality of mobile station identifiers, wherein each identifier is associated with one of the HLRs; and
instructions adapted for execution by the central node, the instructions including:

instructions for searching the first table for a second mobile station identifier that matches the first mobile station identifier and sending a query to a network entity identified by the associated location routing number if a match is found; and

instructions for searching the second table for a second mobile station identifier that matches the first mobile station identifier and sending a query to the associated HLR if a match is found.

20(original). The telecommunications system of claim 19 further comprising a number portability database (NPDB) connected to the central node, and instructions for querying the NPDB if no match is found after searching of the first and second tables.

21(original). The telecommunications system of claim 19 further comprising a network switch in communication with the central node, wherein the network switch is adapted for querying the central node for routing information when the switch receives a request to set up the call.

22(original). The telecommunications system of claim 19 wherein at least some of the plurality of HLRs are based on different technologies.

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23(original). The telecommunications system of claim 19 wherein the instructions further include instructions for receiving and sending messages based on different technologies.